

RWS DEVELOPING STRINGS SERIES

CONDUCTOR SCORE  
Catalog No: RWS-2390-01

# A Minor Holiday Celebration

(For String Orchestra)

Traditional  
Arranged by  
Robert W. Smith

**RWS**  
DEVELOPING STRINGS SERIES

**RWS** MUSIC  
COMPANY

# A Minor Holiday Celebration

## (For String Orchestra)

Traditional

Arranged by Robert W. Smith

Edited by Douglas Droste

### INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score.....	1
Violin I.....	15
Violin II.....	15
Viola.....	6
Cello.....	5
Double Bass.....	5
Piano.....	1
Percussion (Opt.): Sleigh Bells, Triangle, Tambourine.....	2

### PROGRAM NOTE

Two Christmas favorites have been re-arranged into a harmonic minor mode providing a new twist on these holiday classics. Robert W. Smith has woven together *Joy To The World* and *Jingle Bells* with quotes from other familiar melodies including *The Dreidel Song* and *Hallelujah Chorus*. Join us in our minor celebration of the holidays!

### NOTES TO CONDUCTOR

This arrangement provides an opportunity to introduce/reinforce minor scales. I would suggest beginning rehearsals with a review of the C major scale identifying scale degree numbers in the process. From there, proceed to the C natural minor scale with an explanation of relative key signatures as appropriate in your classroom setting. Finally, introduce the harmonic minor through the adjustment of the natural minor scale and the raising of the 7th scale degree. Although this music theory lesson may be daunting to younger musicians, the opportunity to introduce minor scales and relative majors will help lay the foundation for future musical growth. To facilitate the teaching objectives, I have notated in the key of C major allowing accidentals to be clearly in focus for the musicians as they explore the differences between major and minor keys.

The introduction should be as bold and majestic as possible. The eighth note staccatos that follow in measure 9 should be very light in comparison. The melodic interplay in measures 29-30 should be balanced to insure communication between sections.

The accompaniment figures beginning at measure 41 should be strong but not overplayed. I would suggest clarifying and unifying the staccato articulation in the cello and bass. Please pay particular attention to the balance between the low strings and the eighth notes in the violas and piano. Finally, please be sure the melodic presence is maintained as the upper strings present *Jingle Bells* in the minor mode.

Please note the subito dynamic effect at measure 60. This sets up a four-bar crescendo leading to the *Hallelujah Chorus* quote at measure 64. This quote should be regal and majestic leading to an exciting conclusion.

I have included light optional percussion that can be played by any member of the orchestra. Please include these instruments if possible.

I hope that you and your orchestra find *A Minor Holiday Celebration* to be a rewarding and educational experience. In addition, I hope this arrangement is a joyous addition to your holiday concert program. Happy Holidays to all!



### ABOUT THE ARRANGER



**Robert W. Smith** (b. 1958) is one of the most popular and prolific composers in America today. He has over 600 publications in print with the majority composed and arranged through his long association with Warner Bros. Publications and the Belwin catalog.

Mr. Smith's credits include many compositions and productions in all areas of the music field. His original works for winds and percussion have been programmed by countless military, university, high school, and middle school bands throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia, South America and Asia. His *Symphony #1* (The Divine Comedy), *Symphony #2* (The Odyssey), *Symphony #3* (Don Quixote), *Inchon* and *Africa: Ceremony, Song and Ritual* have received worldwide critical acclaim. His educational compositions such as *The Tempest*, *Encanto*, and *The Great Locomotive Chase* have become standards for developing bands throughout the world.

Mr. Smith's music has received extensive airplay on major network television as well as inclusion in multiple motion pictures. From professional ensembles such as the United States Navy Band, United States Air Force Band, Boston Pops and the Atlanta Symphony to school bands and orchestras throughout the world, his music speaks to audiences in any concert setting. As a conductor, clinician and keynote speaker, Mr. Smith has performed throughout North America, Asia, South America, Europe and Australia. His music has been recorded by various ensembles and is available on CD and download through Walking Frog Records, iTunes, Amazon, and other recorded music outlets.





Vln. I  
 Vln. II  
 Vla.  
 Vc.  
 D.B.  
 Pno.  
 Perc. (Opt.)

Musical score for measures 13-18. The score includes parts for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, Piano, and optional Percussion. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 4/4. The score features a large red watermark reading "Only Purchase" diagonally across the page.

19

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Pno.

Perc.  
(Opt.)

19 20 21 22 23 24

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Pno.

Perc. (Opt.)

25 26 27 28 29 30

31

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Pno.

Perc. (Opt.)

31 32 33 34 35 36

37

Vln. I *f* (V) *mf*

Vln. II *f* (V) *mf*

Vla. *f* (V) *mf* Div.

Vc. *f* (V) *ff* *mf*

D.B. *f* (V) *ff* *mf*

Pno. *f* *mf*

Perc. (Opt.) *f* 37 38 39 40 41 42 Tambourine *mf*

43

Vln. I *mf* *f* *mf*

Vln. II *mf* *f* *mf*

Vla. *f* *mf*

Vc. *f* *mf*

D.B. *f* *mf*

Pno. *mf* *f* *mf*

Perc. (Opt.) 43 44 45 46 47 48



Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Pno.

Perc. (Opt.)

49 50 51 52 53 54

*f*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Pno.

Perc. (Opt.)

55 56 57 58 59

Score for measures 60 to 65. The score includes parts for Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., D.B., Pno., and Perc. (Opt.). The dynamics range from *mp* to *f*. A large red watermark "Preview Use Requires Purchase" is overlaid on the score.

Measures 60 to 65. The score includes parts for Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., D.B., Pno., and Perc. (Opt.). The dynamics range from *mp* to *f*. A large red watermark "Preview Use Requires Purchase" is overlaid on the score.

Score for measures 66 to 70. The score includes parts for Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., D.B., Pno., and Perc. (Opt.). The dynamics range from *f* to *ff*. A large red watermark "Preview Use Requires Purchase" is overlaid on the score.

Measures 66 to 70. The score includes parts for Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., D.B., Pno., and Perc. (Opt.). The dynamics range from *f* to *ff*. A large red watermark "Preview Use Requires Purchase" is overlaid on the score.